

IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~strikethrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

Please AMEND claims 1, 9, 13, and 14 in accordance with the following:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of managing delivery goods when directly delivering goods from a deliverer to a location associated with a recipient comprising:

receiving, at a delivery goods management apparatus, information for a request to confirm reception of delivery goods entered by a deliverer when a recipient of the delivery goods from the location is absent, wherein the information includes a message requesting the recipient to confirm as to whether the recipient approves or rejects delivery of the goods by the deliverer to the location;

extracting recipient information from a storage unit which stores the recipient information corresponding to the information for the delivery goods reception confirmation requests; and

notifying said recipient of confirmation request information based on the recipient information while the recipient is absent from the location, said method further comprising:

further storing information for a deliverer corresponding to the delivery goods identification information in said storage unit and receiving the delivery goods identification information and reception approval/refusal information entered by said recipient;

extracting the deliverer information relevant to the delivery goods identification information from said storage unit; and

notifying said deliverer of the reception approval/refusal information based on the deliverer information.

2-3. (Cancelled)

4. (Previously Presented) The method of managing delivery goods according to claim 1, further comprising:

further storing information for a client corresponding to the delivery goods information in said storage unit, and extracting the delivery goods information and client information relevant to the delivery goods identification information from said storage unit; and

notifying said client of the reception approval/refusal information based on the client information.

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Previously Presented) A delivery goods management apparatus for managing delivery of goods from a deliverer to a location associated with a recipient comprising:

a storage unit which stores recipient information corresponding to information for a request to confirm reception of delivery goods, which includes a message requesting the recipient to confirm as to whether the recipient approves or rejects delivery of the goods by the deliverer to the location, and also stores information for a deliverer corresponding to the delivery goods information in said storage unit;

a unit which receives information for the confirmation request entered by a deliverer when a recipient of the delivery goods is absent from the location, and also receives the delivery goods identification information and reception approval/refusal information entered by said recipient;

a unit which extracts the information entered by said recipient from said storage unit and also extracts the deliverer information relevant to the delivery goods identification information from said storage unit; and

a unit which notifies said recipient of the confirmation request information based on the recipient information while the recipient is absent from the location, and also notifies said deliverer of the reception approval/refusal information based on the deliverer information.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Currently Amended) A computer readable storage medium which stores a program for making the-a computer:

receive, at a delivery goods management apparatus, information for a request to confirm reception of delivery goods at a location associated with a recipient entered by a deliverer when the recipient of the delivery goods is absent from the location, wherein the information includes a message requesting the recipient to confirm as to whether the recipient approves or rejects delivery of the goods by the deliverer to the location;

extract recipient information and recipient information corresponding to the information for the delivery goods reception confirmation request; and

notify said recipient of the confirmation request information based on the recipient information while the recipient is absent from the location, said computer readable storage medium further making the computer:

further store information for a deliverer corresponding to the delivery goods identification information in said storage unit and receive the delivery goods identification information and reception approval/refusal information entered by said recipient;

extract the deliverer information relevant to the delivery goods identification information from said storage unit; and

notify said deliverer of the reception approval/refusal information based on the deliverer information.

10-11. (Cancelled)

12. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium which stores a program according to claim 9, further making the computer:

further store information for a client corresponding to the delivery goods information in said storage unit, and extract the delivery goods information and client information relevant to the delivery goods identification information from said storage unit; and

notify said client of the reception approval/refusal information based on the client information.

13. (Currently Amended) A method in a data processing system for managing the direct delivery of an item to a location associated with a receiver comprising:

receiving, at a delivery goods management apparatus, information for a request to confirm reception of delivery goods entered by a deliverer when a recipient of the delivery goods from the location is absent, wherein the information includes a message requesting the recipient to confirm as to whether the recipient approves or rejects delivery of the goods by the deliverer to the location;

extracting recipient information from a storage unit which stores the recipient information corresponding to the information for the delivery goods reception confirmation requests; and

further storing information for a deliverer corresponding to the delivery goods identification information in said storage unit and receiving the delivery goods identification information and reception approval/refusal information entered by said recipient; and

notifying said deliverer of the reception approval/refusal information based on the deliverer information.

14. (Currently Amended) A method of operating a data processing system, comprising:
receiving, at a delivery goods management apparatus, information for a request to confirm reception of delivery goods entered by a deliverer when a recipient of the delivery goods from the location is absent, wherein the information includes a message requesting the recipient to confirm as to whether the recipient approves or rejects delivery of the goods by the deliverer to the location;

extracting recipient information from a storage unit which stores the recipient information corresponding to the information for the delivery goods reception confirmation requests; and

further storing information for a deliverer corresponding to the delivery goods identification information in said storage unit and receiving the delivery goods identification information and reception approval/refusal information entered by said recipient; and

notifying said deliverer of the reception approval/refusal information based on the deliverer information.

15. (Previously Presented) The delivery goods management apparatus according to claim 7, wherein said storage units further stores information for a client corresponding to the delivery goods information, said unit which extracts the information entered by said recipient, further extracts the delivery goods information and client information relevant to the delivery goods identification information from said storage unit; and said unit which notifies said recipient of the confirmation request information further notifies said client of the reception approval/refusal information based on the client information.